GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2483
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
HODA COMMITTEE REPORT ON MINERAL CONCESSION
Maharia Shri Subhash;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of State Governments opposed the Hoda Committee report so far as direct action by the Centre disposing off mineral concession applications and related matters thereof;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government has arrived at consensus with the State Governments regarding the recommendations of the Committee; and

(d) if so, ,the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZER AND MINISTRY OF MINES(SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (d): State Governments are the owner of minerals and grant mineral concessions. Prior approval of the Central Government is mandatory for grant of mineral concession in case of minerals in First Schedule of Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. In order to streamline, simplify and review the National Mineral Policy and to recommend possible amendments to the MMDR Act, the Planning Commission had constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwar Hoda, Member, Planning Commission. The High level Committee submitted its report to the Government on 20th July, 2006. The Government has received representation from some States raising concerns on the recommendations of Hoda Committee to allow the Central Government intervention in disposing the mineral concession proposals pending in State Government in case of delay beyond the prescribed time limits in Rules. This issue has been considered and the Government has not agreed with the recommendations of Hoda Committee.